The cost plus formula bases the reimbursement on achievement of norms and other operational parameters established for the purpose and is the best possible arrangement for oil industry on long term basis with maximum relibility and minimum cost in a highly volatile tanker market.

**Introduction of lead free petrol in Metropolitan cities**

1273. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SYED SIBTEY RAZI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to introduce lead free petrol in metropolitan cities as reported in the 'The Statesman' of 19th June, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the lead free petrol would be imported or any indigenous technology would be adopted to reduce the sulphur content in petrol; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Government have formulated a plan of lead phasing in petrol for metropolitan cities. According to the plan, by December 1994, petrol supply to metros (Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras) should have a maximum lead of 0.15 gm/litre. The supply of low lead (0.15 gm/l max) M.S to all four metropolitan cities has already commenced.

By December, 1997, Delhi and Bombay would be supplied with zero lead MS, whereas the rest of the country would have MS supplies of lead content not exceeding 0.15 gm/litre. However, it has been decided to introduce from April 1995, in a few selected retail outlets, supply of zero lead petrol in four metropolitan cities in order to cater to the requirement of the new vehicles which would be fitted with catalytic convertors.

(c) and (d) Presently there is no proposal for import of lead free petrol. Sulphur content in petrol is negligible.

**Distribution of LPG connections**

1274. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chalked out any concrete plan to provide maximum number of LPG connections to all those who got registered in 1992-93 particularly in States like Rajasthan and Orissa, indicating the number of customers to be covered upto June, 1994; and

(b) whether it is a fact that certain companies are indulging in fraudulent activities in the area of parallel marketing of LPG/kerosene particularly in adulteration of other petroleum products with kerosene and underweighing of LPG cylinders; if so, the number of such companies which came to the notice of his Ministry indicating the action taken against each of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) Allotment of new LPG connections is not made on Statewise basis. New LPG connections are released to the waitlisted persons according to the serial order of registration with the distributor concerned depending on new customer enrolment allotted to the distributor which is made keeping in view the slack available with the distributor, waiting list and product availability. Release of connections is not based on the age of the registration. There is a target of 20 lakh new enrolment for the whole country during 1994-95.